

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A suction system, ~~adapter for use with first and second medical devices capable of accommodating suction~~, comprising:

a suction source;

a first medical device;

a second medical device;

a manifold having at least three ports, the ports including a suction port connected to ~~[[a]]~~ the suction source, a first device port accommodating the first medical device to receive suction from the suction source ~~that receives suction~~ and adapted to be inserted ~~inserts~~ into a body lumen for performing a first procedure, and a second device port accommodating the second medical device to receive suction from the suction source ~~that receives suction~~ and adapted to be inserted ~~inserts~~ into the body lumen for performing a second procedure; and

a flexible flow valve having an opening positioned in both a first flow path between the first device port and the second device port and a second flow path between the first device port and the suction port, the flexible flow valve permitting simultaneous fluid flow between the suction port and both the first and second device ports,

wherein the fluid flow path between the suction port and the first device port is through the opening of the flexible flow valve,

wherein the opening is configured to increase due to fluid flow from the first device port to the suction port.

2. (Currently Amended) The suction system ~~adapter~~ of claim 1, wherein the first medical device is an endoscope, and the second medical device is a suction device.

3. (Currently Amended) The suction system ~~adapter~~ of claim 1, wherein the flexible flow valve includes a membrane.

4. (Currently Amended) The suction system ~~adapter~~ of claim 3, wherein the membrane has at least three flaps.

5. (Currently Amended) The suction system ~~adapter~~ of claim 4, wherein the flaps are separated from each other by cuts in the membrane.

6. (Currently Amended) The suction system ~~adapter~~ of claim 4, wherein the flaps are separated from each other by folds in the membrane.

7. (Currently Amended) The suction system ~~adapter~~ of claim 4, wherein the flaps overlap.

8. (Currently Amended) The suction system ~~adapter~~ of claim 4, wherein the opening of the flexible flow valve includes gaps between the flaps.

9. (Currently Amended) The suction system ~~adapter~~ of claim 1, wherein the flexible flow valve includes a plurality of first flaps each having a first shape and alternating with a plurality of second flaps each having a second shape, the first shape differing from the second shape.

10. (Currently Amended) The suction system ~~adapter~~ of claim 9, wherein the flexible flow valve includes a membrane and the flaps are separated from each other by cuts in the membrane.

11. (Currently Amended) The suction system ~~adapter~~ of claim 9, wherein the flexible flow valve includes a membrane and the flaps are separated from each other by folds in the membrane.

12. (Currently Amended) The suction system ~~adapter~~ of claim 1, wherein the opening of the flexible flow valve is substantially centrally located.

13. (Currently Amended) The suction system ~~adapter~~ of claim 1, wherein the flexible flow valve is substantially flat.

14. (Currently Amended) The suction system ~~adapter~~ of claim 1, wherein the flexible flow valve is conical.

15. (Currently Amended) The suction system ~~adapter~~ of claim 1, wherein the flexible flow valve is dome-shaped.

16. (Currently Amended) The suction system ~~adapter~~ of claim 1, wherein the flexible flow valve is multi-prism shaped.

17. (Currently Amended) The suction system ~~adapter~~ of claim 1, wherein the manifold and the flexible flow valve are manufactured as a single component.

18. (Currently Amended) The suction system ~~adapter~~ of claim 17, wherein the manifold and the flexible flow valve are made of injection-molded bio-compatible plastic.

19. (Currently Amended) The suction system ~~adapter~~ of claim 1, wherein the manifold includes two separately manufactured components, the components including a first component which includes the first device port and a second component which includes the suction port and the second device port.

20. (Currently Amended) The suction system ~~adapter~~ of claim 19, wherein the second component is a tee-connector.

21. (Currently Amended) The suction system ~~adapter~~ of claim 1, wherein the manifold has a third device port configured for accommodating a third medical device.

22. (Currently Amended) The suction system ~~adapter~~ of claim 21, including a second flexible flow valve with an opening, the second flexible flow valve located between the third device port and both the second device port and the suction port.

23. (Currently Amended) The suction system ~~adapter~~ of claim 1, wherein the opening is configured to increase due to a difference in pressure at proximal and distal sides of the flexible flow valve.

24. (Currently Amended) The suction system ~~adapter~~ of claim 1, wherein the opening is configured to increase due to an application of suction.